

Ambassador Remarks
US Army South Medical Readiness Exercise
Cayes Jacmel, Haiti September 23, 2009

Excellency, Dr. Larsen (MoH Dr. Alex Larson)
Delegate Fednel (POH Rep - Zidor Fednel)
Senators Lambert and Lambert (Joseph & Wencesclass Lambert*)

*** Wencesclass Lambert will speak**
Depute Felix (Congressman Delouis Felix)
Mayor Zenny (Jacmel)
Magistrate Janvier (Cayes-Jacmel -Seguito Janvier)
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to be here today for the closing ceremony of this medical readiness exercise in the Southern Department.

The United States is committed to helping the people of Haiti improve their lives and well being. We are working with Haiti on long-term economic growth and job creation, but people's immediate needs are also extremely important. Americans care deeply about the people of Haiti, and this mission -- people helping people directly -- is a demonstration of the friendship between our two countries."

Today we come here to thank members of the United States Army Medical Corps, the Ministry of Health, the Haitian National Police and the volunteers for their dedicated efforts over the last two weeks to help with our commitment.

The people of Haiti and the people of the United States are bound to one another by the ties of shared history, of family and of long friendship. This Medical Mission

symbolizes the United States' continued commitment to Haiti.

Over the last two weeks, these dedicated professionals with the unwavering support of the Ministry of Health, and the dedicated volunteers, have provided critical medical care to over 6.000 people. From simple inoculations to emergent limb saving surgery, these US Soldiers have worked tirelessly to help the people of Haiti, live better healthier lives.

I wish to thank the Dr. Larsen and the Ministry of Health for all the cooperation and support of the Government of Haiti for this mission. Your help has been crucial to the success of this mission and to future missions of these types to help your country and your people.

Thank you Col Hershey for your team's exemplary efforts over these last weeks. Your team has shown dedication in your purpose, commitment in your actions, and diligence in your efforts. What you have accomplished here will long be remembered by this country, this government and most importantly the people of Haiti. Commissar Wagnac, Commissar Champagne, Commissar Mathurin we thank you for your dedicated professional police and coast guard officers, who kept our people safe, who managed the crowds, who provided the escorts who ensured that our medical teams were able to help your people in a secure and peaceful environment. Thank you to the Keziah Furth and the volunteers, who without your support, our mission would have been much more difficult. Your dedication and assistance in caring for the people of this area are a true testament to content of you character.

And we thank the Haitian people for giving us the opportunity to help you and your children.

For all of your efforts, I gives me great pleasure to
present these plaques as a token of our appreciation.

Excellency Dr. Larsen

Commissar Wagnac

Commissar Champagne

Commissar Mathurin

Ms. Keziah Furth

Ms. Regina Duperval representing the Volunteers from
the School of Medicine

Please join me in a round of applause.

Thank you.